

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 WARSAW 00070 071506Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 EB-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /072 W
----- 004199

R 071254Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9166

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMCONSUL KRAKOW

AMCONSUL POZNAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 0070

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: PFOR, PL, YO, UR

SUBJECT: POLISH-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS STRAINED OVER COM-
INFORMIST INCIDENT

1. A BRITISH EMBASSY OFFICER HERE INFORMED US ON JANU-
ARY 6 THAT THERE WAS A SECRET MEETING OF CONINFORMISTS
IN KRAKOW ABOUT LAST OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER. QUERYING THEIR
EMBASSY IN BELGRADE ABOUT THIS, THE BRITISH HAVE LEARNED
THAT THIS MEETING WAS ONE OF A SERIES OF SIMILAR CON-
CLAVES HELD LAST FALL IN EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND
THAT AN UNNAMED YUGOSLAV VICE PREMIER HAD CONDEMNED SUPPORT OF
SUCH ACTIVITY IN A SPEECH, SPECIFICALLY CITING POLAND AMONG
OTHERS. THE BRITISH EMBASSY IN BELGRADE ADDED THAT THE
SITUATION SEEMS TO HAVE IMPROVED FOLLOWING FOREIGN
MINISTER MINIC'S TALKS IN MOSCOW AND CAUTIONED AGAINST
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 WARSAW 00070 071506Z

OVERSTRESSING THE AFFAIR.

2. A YUGOSLAVE EMBASSY OFFICER IN A CONVERSATION ON DECEMBER 4 HAD MENTIONED RECENT "MISUNDERSTANDINGS" IN RELATIONS WITH POLAND, BUT HE INSISTED THAT THEY HAD BEEN CLEARED UP AND WERE BEST FORGOTTEN. HE DID NOT DESCRIBE THEM, BUT HE WENT ON TO STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NOVEMBER 27 PRAVDA ARTICLE DISAVOWING THE COMINFORMISTS. ALTHOUGH UNAWARE OF THE KRAKOW MEETING AT THAT TIME, WE NOW BELIEVE THE YUGOSLAVE HAD THIS IN MIND WHEN HE SPOKE OF "MISUNDERSTANDINGS". THE CONVERSATION WAS REPORTED TO THE DEPARTMENT, MOSCOW, AND BELGRADE BY MEMORANDUM.

3. THE BRITISH HAVE A REPORT THAT THE YUGOSLAVS DOWNGRADED THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE POLISH PARTY CONGRESS (DECEMBER 8-12) AS A RESULT OF THE KRAKOW INCIDENT. INSTEAD OF BEING LED BY LCY SECRETARY STANE DOLANC, THE LCY DELEGATION WAS HEADED BY A PRESIDUM SECRETARY, VOJISLAV SRZENTIC. FOR UNEXPLAINED REASONS THERE WAS REPORTEDLY A LAST-MINUTE SHIFT IN THE SCHEDULING OF SRZENTIC'S ADDRESS TO THE CONGRESS. ULTIMATELY, HE DELIVERED A STRONG SPEECH, STRESSING PRINCIPLES OF MUTUAL RESPECT, EQUALITY, AND NONINTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND UNDERSCORING THE "RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT BEFORE ITS OWN WORKING CLASS AND PEOPLE," ACCORDING TO THE TRYBUNA LUDU VERSION.

4. THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE WEEKLY POLITYKA ON DECEMBER 13 PUBLISHED AN ARTICLE ABOUT YUGOSLAVIA ENTITLED "REBUFF TO SLADERERS". DESCRIBING RECENT YUGOSLAV DISCUSSION ABOUT THE INTERNAL STRUGGLE AGAINST DEVIATIONS "FROM THE NATIONALISTIC TO THE DOGMATIC", IT QUOTED EXTENSIVELY FROM BELGRADE'S VECERNJE NOVOSTI ABOUT THE EFFORTS OF "COMINFORMISTS" WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST MOVEMENT TO ISOLATE YUGOSLAVIA. POLITYKA THEN QUOTED EXTENSIVELY FROM THE NOVEMBER 27 PRAVDA ARTICLE AND FROM CONCILIATORY TASS COMMENTARY ON THE OCCASION OF THE YUGOSLAV NATIONAL DAY.

5. COMMENT: POLITYKA'S ARTICLE IS A RARE GESTURE, SINCE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 WARSAW 00070 071506Z

THE POLISH PRESS HAS HARDLY MENTIONED THE COMINFORMIST AFFAIR. THE ARTICLE SEEMS TO REPRESENT AN EFFORT PUBLICLY TO EXTEND AN OLIVE BRANCH TO THE YUGOSLAVS FOLLOWING PRAVDA'S HATCHET-BURYING. THE POLES GENERALLY HARBOR DEEP SENTIMENTS OF KINSHIP AND ADMIRATION FOR THE YUGOSLAVS AND ESPECIALLY FOR MARSHAL TITO. THEY PLACE GREAT STORE IN CONTINUED EXPANSION OF MUTUAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS, AD WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT POLISH COMMUNIST

OFFICIALS FIND THEMSELVES PRIVATELY SYMPHETIC TO
SOME OF YUGOSLAVIA'S POSITIONS WITHIN THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNIST MOVEMENT. REJECTING AS IMPROBABLE THE POSSI-
BILITY THAT THE REPORTED KRAKOW CONCLAVE TRANSPIRED
WITHOUT OFFICIAL KNOWLEDGE, WE NEVERTHELESS BELIEVE
THAT POLAND WOULD ACQUIESCE IN SUCH A MEETING ONLY RE-
LUCTANTLY AND PROBABLY UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE.
DAVIES

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ullricre
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976WARSAW00070
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X4
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760005-0488
From: WARSAW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760177/aaaacrea.tel
Line Count: 123
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ullricre
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <30 JUL 2004 by ullricre>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POLISH-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS STRAINED OVER COM- INFORMIST INCIDENT
TAGS: PFOR, PL, YO, UR, COMINFORMIST
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006